

**ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT
(Final)**

**Construct Wastewater Re-use Line at
Hurlburt Field**

**Eglin Air Force Base, Florida
RCS: 02-203**

September 2003

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO

5 AUG 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR 96 ABW/EMSP
ATTN: MS ELIZABETH VANTA
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Eglin AFB FL 32542-5133

FROM: HQ AFMC/MSEVO
4225 Logistics Ave, Bldg 266
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH 45433

SUBJECT: Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for Constructing a Wastewater Reuse
Line at Hurlburt Field, Eglin AFB FL

Attached are the signed FONSI and environmental assessment for installing a wastewater reuse line at Hurlburt Field located within Eglin Air Force Base. It has been determined that the proposed action will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. If you have any questions concerning the Air Force's environmental impact analysis process (32 CFR 989), please contact Ms. Shari Kilbourne at (937) 656-2926.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "TE Ellingson", is positioned above the typed name.

THOMAS E. ELLINGSON, P.E
Chief, Environmental Operations Branch
Command Civil Engineer
Directorate of Mission Support

Attachments:

1. FONSI
2. Environmental Assessment

cc:
16 CES/CEV

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

CONSTRUCT WASTEWATER REUSE LINE

HURLBURT FIELD, FLORIDA

INTRODUCTION

Water resources in the vicinity of Hurlburt Field are in high demand and in dwindling supply. The Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWFMD) has designated this area as a Water Resource Caution Area, and has called for continuing efforts to conserve water resources. The Floridan Aquifer is confined by the Pensacola Clay formation and produces high yields of high quality water that typically requires only chlorination to meet drinking water standards. It is this water that is of primary concern to the populace who lives and works in southern Okaloosa County. According to the NFWFMD, since the 1930s the potentiometric surface of the Floridan aquifer has dropped over 160 feet due to overuse. This is indicative of withdrawing water at a higher rate than it is being recharged. If this trend is not slowed or reversed, there is substantial risk of salt-water intrusion into this pristine aquifer.

By implementing the proposed reuse project, Hurlburt Field is seeking to help slow overuse of the Floridan Aquifer by avoiding a "once through" cycle of this valuable, irreplaceable resource. Water that is currently withdrawn from the Floridan Aquifer is used, treated and discharged into a wetland area northeast of Hurlburt Field. The proposed action will provide an alternate supply of useable water, reducing demand on the Floridan Aquifer.

In accordance with Title 32 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 989, Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP), and the President's Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (40 CFR 1500-1508), the attached environmental assessment (EA) provides analyses of potential environmental consequences that could result from construction and use of the proposed facility.

THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

The proposed action is for the city of Fort Walton Beach to install a reuse waterline from Hurlburt Field's Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant (AWTP) to an aircraft clear water rinse facility in the vicinity of Hurlburt's flightline. An additional segment of reuse line would link Hurlburt's AWTP to Beal Memorial Cemetery in Fort Walton Beach. A future Air Force project would tie the reuse line to the existing irrigation system that serves Hurlburt's Gator Lakes Golf Course. The portion of reuse waterline on Hurlburt Field would be installed completely within existing road right-of-ways and under existing asphalt areas. No other actions are currently being proposed, but the project is being viewed as having potential for expansion in the future to include additional contributors and receptors of properly treated wastewater.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

Construction activities would cause negligible and temporary increases in soil erosion, air emissions and noise levels. Some traffic congestion could occur on Heritage and Golf Course Roads and to a lesser extent on Independence Road at Hurlburt's back gate as a result of construction. No comments were received from the general public during or after a mandatory public review period was advertised and made available. Regulatory review of the EA through the US Fish & Wildlife Service and the Florida State Clearing House resulted in no comments from participating agencies except the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's comments were relative to permit requirements (see Agency Correspondence in main EA) that will be addressed if the EA is approved and as the project moves forward.

Topography and Geology

Topography and geology are not likely to be affected by the proposed action. The proposed action could impact hydrogeology in a beneficial manner due to decreased demand on the Floridan and Sand and Gravel Aquifers that would be realized through active treatment and reuse of wastewater.

Air Quality

Implementation of the proposed action would cause no lasting or significant adverse air quality effects. The proposed action would not affect the current air quality attainment of the base or region.

Soils

Construction of the reuse waterline would involve trenching and possibly boring that could result in temporary displacement of soils. Displaced soils from trenching would be replaced as construction progressed, and Best Management Practices (BMPs) would be employed to minimize migration of spoil material off site. Once restored to their previous elevations, seeding and/or sodding would stabilize areas disturbed by trenching. Impacts to soils from the proposed action would be negligible.

Surface Hydrology and Water Quality

Under the proposed action, the reuse waterline would be constructed entirely in existing right-of-ways and under existing asphalt and paved areas, minimizing potential impacts to surface waters or wetland areas. In areas where the line would be placed in close proximity to surface waters, silt screens consisting of filter fabric and hay bales would be utilized to prevent sediments from migrating off site.

Hurlburt's Gator Lakes Golf Course currently withdraws water from Hurlburt Lake for irrigation purposes. During periods of extended drought, the lake, which is fed by groundwater, reaches extremely low levels that prevents boat launching and increases potential for fish kills. Availability of reuse water for irrigation purposes at the golf course would lessen demands on the lake.

Wetlands, Streams, and Floodplains

The reuse waterline would be constructed entirely in existing right-of-ways and under existing asphalt and paved areas. No impacts to wetland or floodplains would occur as a result of the proposed action.

Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species

No negative impacts to rare or sensitive vegetative species would be likely to occur because the proposed action would be constructed entirely in existing road right-of-ways and under existing asphalt and paved areas. Silt screens consisting of filter fabric and hay bales would be employed in areas adjacent to wetlands and other habitats where protected flora was present to protect those species.

Land Use

The proposed action would take place within the boundary of Hurlburt Field, a mostly industrialized area with heavy human presence. Conflicts with the users of Hurlburt property during pipeline construction would primarily consist of potential effects to traffic movement due to the proximity of project activity to roadways. No road closings or extended traffic stoppage would occur as a result of the project.

An AF Form 103 (Digging Permit) would be initiated to identify and locate utility lines in the area so they could be avoided.

Environmental Justice

No environmental justice issues would be realized as a result of implementation of the proposed action.

Cultural Resources

The proposed route of the reuse line is entirely in areas that have been previously surveyed or in areas that have been identified as having a low probability for the occurrence of archeological resources. The proposed action would be approximately 4,000 feet from the nearest known archeological site.

Generation of Hazardous Wastes

Wastewater generated at Hurlburt Field is currently disinfected with chlorine and then de-chlorinated with sulfur dioxide to prevent toxicity to fish and other aquatic organisms upon discharge to adjacent wetlands. In order to comply with state requirements, the water would be re-chlorinated before entering the reuse system,

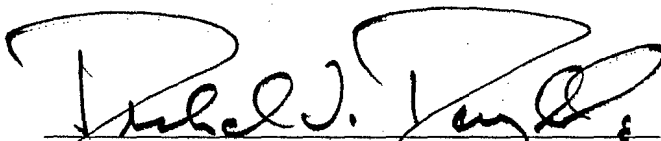
but only to levels equivalent to normal drinking water standards. The 16th Special Operations Wing Safety Office and the 16th Civil Engineer Squadron Unexploded Ordnance Shop reviewed the proposed action and determined that based on the project location, no unexploded ordnance should be in the area and no survey would be required.

Installation Restoration Program (IRP) Sites

No IRP or other known contaminated sites are located within the project area. The nearest IRP site is Hurlburt's old Fire Training Pit (FT-39), approximately 450 feet west of the proposed line.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality regulation implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended and 32 CFR 989, an assessment of the identified environmental effects has been prepared for the proposed construction of a wastewater reuse line at Hurlburt Field. Based on the information and analysis presented in the attached EA, the US Air Force has determined the proposed action does not significantly impact the quality of the natural or human environment, thus an Environmental Impact Statement is not warranted. The signing of this FONSI completes the Air Force's environmental impact analysis process.


RICHARD V. REYNOLDS
Lieutenant General, USAF
Vice Commander

31 Jun 04
Date



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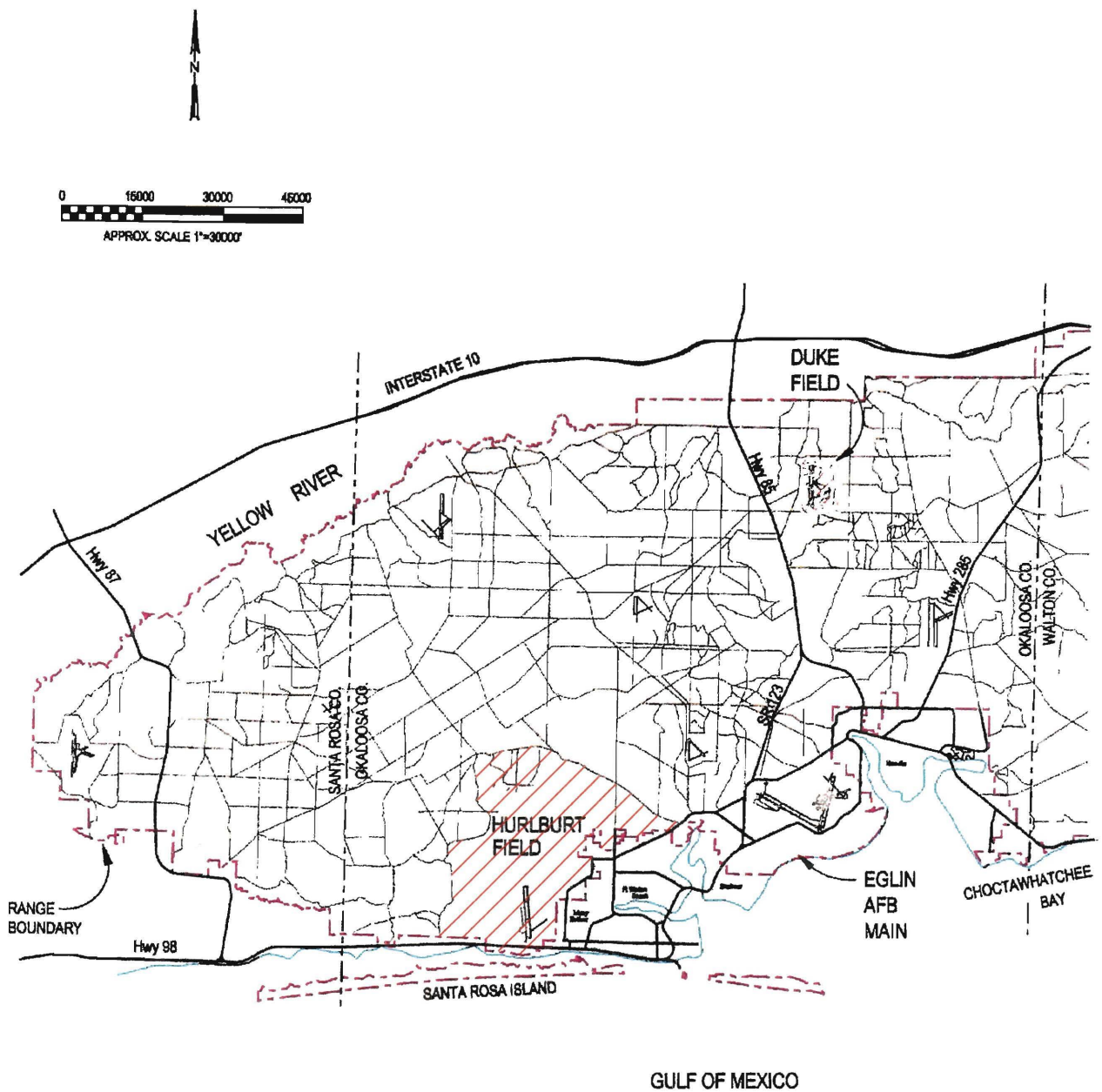
Acronym List

AF	Air Force
AFB	Air Force Base
AFOSH	Air Force Occupational Safety and Health
AFSOC	Air Force Special Operations Command
AWTP	Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant
BMP	Best Management Practice
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
EIAP	Environmental Impact Analysis Process
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FDEP	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
INRMP	Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan
IRP	Installation Restoration Program
MGD	Million Gallons/Day
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NWFWMD	North West Florida Water Management District
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RCW	Red-cockaded Woodpecker
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SOW	Special Operations Wing
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan

USACE U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

USFWS U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

WRCA Water Resource Caution Area



Site Location Map
Hurlburt Field



1. PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION

1.1 Proposed Action

The Proposed Action is for the City of Fort Walton Beach to install a re-use waterline from Hurlburt Field's Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant (AWTP) to an aircraft clear water rinse facility in the vicinity of Hurlburt's flightline (Segment 1). An additional segment of re-use line would link Hurlburt's AWTP to Beal Memorial Cemetery in Fort Walton Beach (Segment 2). A future Air Force project would tie the re-use line to the existing irrigation system that serves Hurlburt's Gator Lakes Golf Course (Segment 3). See Figure 2 on page four for a detailed diagram depicting locations of the three different re-use waterline segments.

No other actions are currently being proposed but the project is being viewed as having potential for expansion in the future to include additional contributors and receptors of properly treated wastewater.

The portion of re-use waterline on Hurlburt Field will be installed completely within existing road right-of-ways and under existing asphalt areas (see Figure 1).

1.2 Purpose of and Need for Proposed Action

Water resources in the vicinity of Hurlburt Field are in high demand, and in dwindling supply. The Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWFMD) has designated this area as a Water Resource Caution Area (WRCA), and has called for continuing efforts to conserve water resources. Two water sources exist in the area with one being used extensively for potable supply and the other primarily for irrigation. These are the Floridan and the Sand and Gravel Aquifers respectively. The Sand and Gravel Aquifer is shallow, unconfined and varies in depth, water quality and water production based on the localized geology. The Floridan Aquifer is confined by the Pensacola Clay formation and produces high yields of high quality water that typically requires only chlorination to meet drinking water standards. It is this water that is of primary concern to the populace who lives and works in southern Okaloosa County. According to the NFWFMD, since the 1930's the potentiometric surface of the Floridan aquifer has dropped over 160' due to overuse. This is indicative of withdrawing water at a higher rate than it is being recharged (by rainfall to the north and east). If this trend is not slowed or reversed, there is substantial risk of salt-water intrusion into this pristine aquifer.

By implementing the proposed reuse project, Hurlburt Field is seeking to help slow overuse of the Floridan Aquifer by avoiding a "once through"

Re-use Line Location

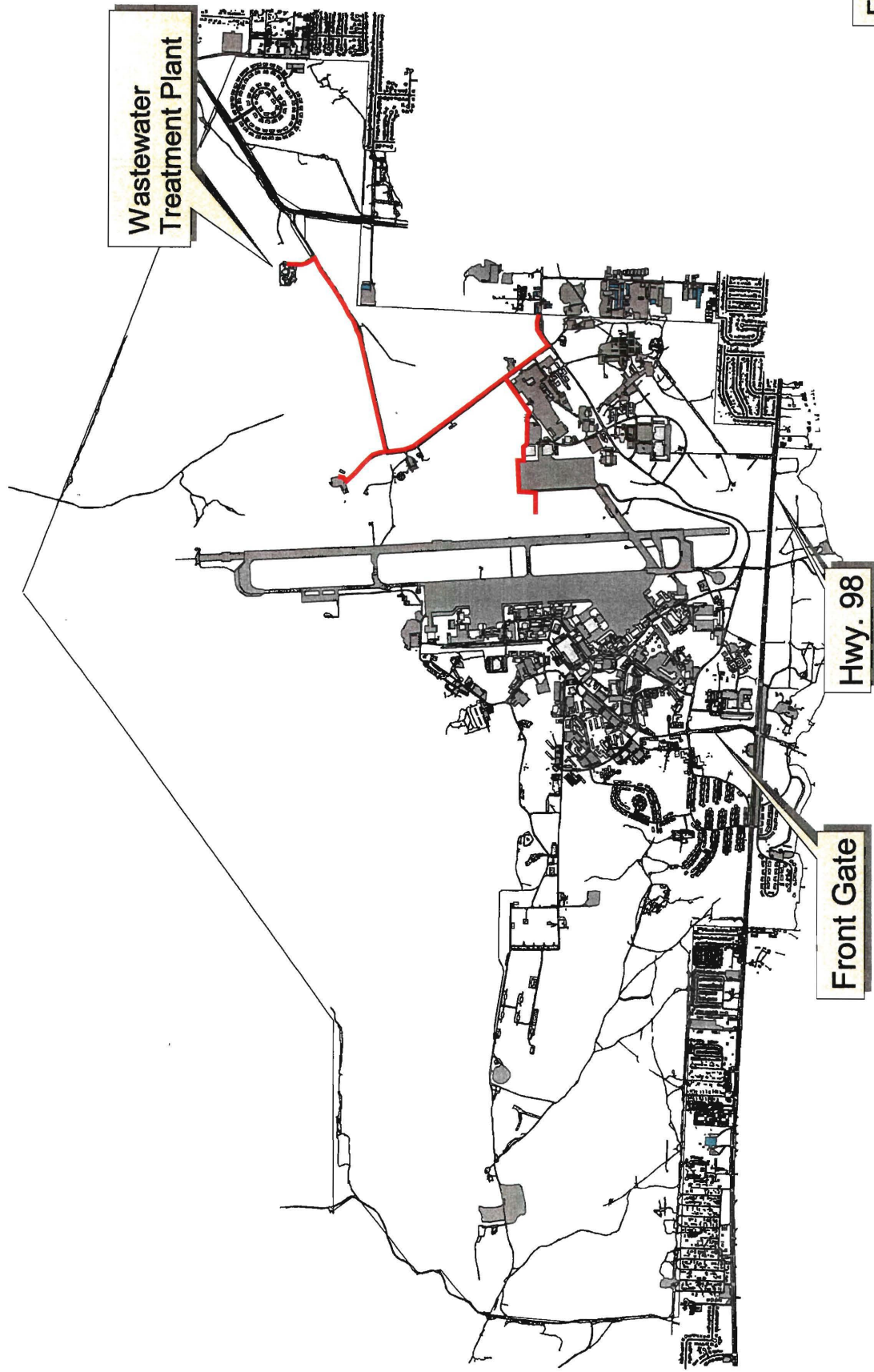
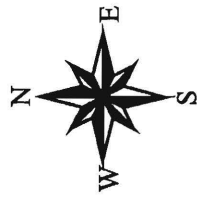


Figure 1

cycle of this valuable, irreplaceable resource. Water that is currently withdrawn from the Floridan Aquifer is used, treated and discharged into a wetland area northeast of Hurlburt Field. The Proposed Action will provide an alternate supply of useable water, reducing demand on the Floridan Aquifer.

1.3 Objectives of Proposed Action

The objective of the Proposed Action is to reduce demand on dwindling water resources in our region while ensuring the continued and unfettered execution of the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) mission at Hurlburt Field through new and innovative techniques that ensure environmental sustainability.

1.4 Decision To Be Made

The Director of Environmental Management, AAC/EM will weigh the analysis presented in this document and will consider the potential environmental impacts in deciding whether to proceed with the Proposed Action as described or choose the No-Action Alternative which would result in no action toward implementation of the project.

2. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

2.1 Proposed Action

The Proposed Action is for the City of Fort Walton Beach to install a re-use waterline from Hurlburt Field's AWTP to Hurlburt's East Gate and to an existing clear water aircraft rinse facility located adjacent to Hurlburt's flightline. A subsequent Air Force project would tie the re-use line to the existing irrigation system at Hurlburt's Gator Lakes Golf Course. The city of Fort Walton Beach will ultimately extend the re-use line from Hurlburt's East Gate to Beal Memorial Cemetery in Fort Walton Beach. For the purposes of this document, references to the re-use line pertain only to that portion of line located on Air Force property. The re-use line will be installed entirely in existing road right-of-ways and under existing asphalt areas. The re-use line will be 12 inch PVC and will be placed at a minimum depth of 42 inches, as measured from the existing grade.

Figure 2 depicts the proposed route of that portion of re-use line to be installed on Hurlburt Field. The segment of re-use line extending from the AWTP to the clear water rinse will be routed from the AWTP, southwest along Heritage Road, south on Golf Course Road, west on Brims Road and underneath a portion of aircraft parking ramp to the clear water rinse. The total length of this segment of line will be approximately 9,550 feet.

From the intersection of Golf Course Road and Brims Road, a second segment will continue south on Golf Course Road to Independence where the line will exit the Base through Hurlburt's East Gate. This segment of line will be approximately 1,500 feet long.

A subsequent Air Force project would extend a line from the intersection of Heritage Road and Golf Course Road, north on Golf Course Road to the Gator Lakes Golf Course where it would be tied to the existing golf course irrigation system. This segment would be approximately 1,500 feet in length.

Proposed Line Segments

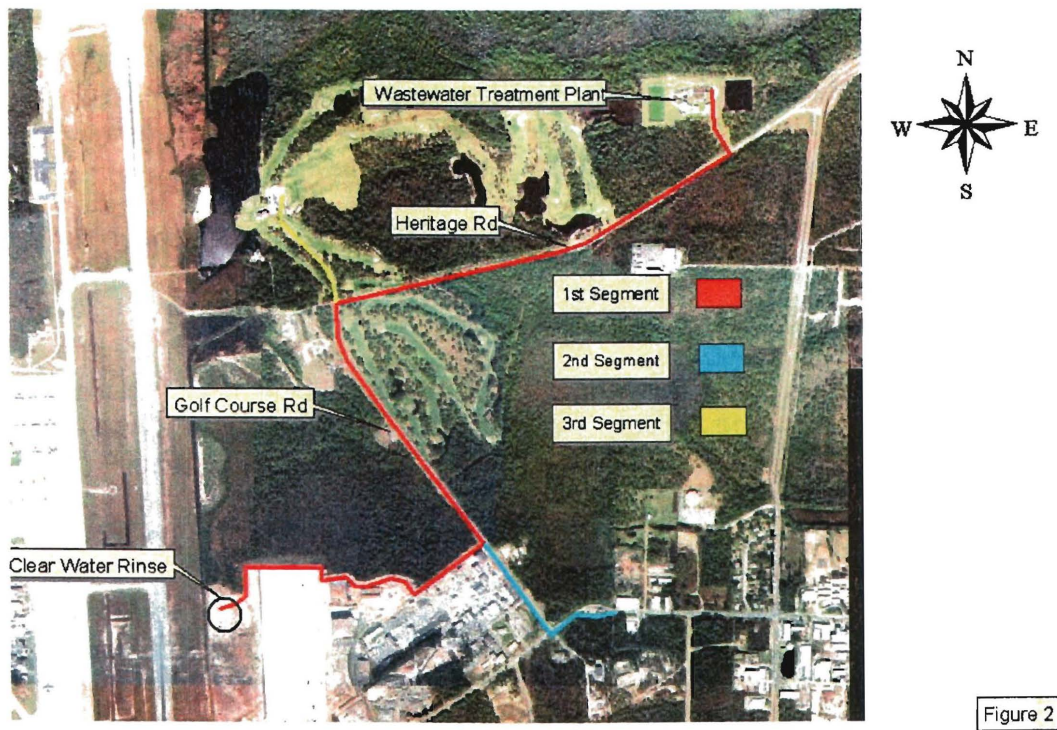


Figure 2

2.2 No-Action Alternative

The No-Action Alternative would be to not construct any form of wastewater re-use facility and to continue discharging treated wastewater into East Bay Swamp.

2.3 Alternatives Considered But Not Carried Forward

Two alternate routes for the re-use line were considered in the preliminary design of the proposed project. One option involved a more direct route using existing utility line right-of ways. This option was eliminated from further analysis due to wetland impacts that would have been unavoidable. Another alternative involved routing the line out Hurlburt Field's Heritage Gate and onto the right-of-way for Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. This alternative was eliminated due to cost associated with the greater distance involved and an additional residential area that would have to be negotiated.

3. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

3.1 Topography, Geology, and Hydrogeology

Hurlburt Field is located within the Coastal Lowlands physiographic province, characterized by beach ridge plains, shorelines, and marine terraces formed during the Pleistocene epoch. The region consists of level to rolling terrain with upland areas separated by depressional and riverine/bay forested wetlands. The installation is bordered to the north and west by East Bay Swamp, to the east by the City of Mary Esther, and to the south by Santa Rosa Sound. The topography ranges from sea level to approximately 40 feet above mean sea level along the northeast boundary. Slopes range from 0 to 8 percent.

The near-surface mineral resources occurring on Hurlburt Field are sand, gravel, quartz, and clay. These resources are mineable from shallow, open pits in the undifferentiated sediments and Pensacola Clay. Hurlburt Field does not contain sinkholes and is considered to be located in an area with no reasonable expectancy of earthquake damage.

Hurlburt Field is underlain by a surficial sand and gravel aquifer, which includes the Citronelle Formation and the Floridan Aquifer of interbedded limestone and dolomite that is approximately 500 to 600 feet below the surface. The main source of water at Hurlburt is the upper Floridan Aquifer, which averages more than 1,000 feet in thickness and produces well yields from several hundred to over 10,000 gallons per minute (gpm). During the last several decades the Floridan Aquifer has lowered 90 feet as a result of extensive pumping in the region. Should this trend continue increases in salt-water intrusion and decreases in water storage along Santa Rosa Sound are possible.

The shallow Sand-and-Gravel Aquifer ranges in thickness from about 150 feet in the east to some 200 feet near the center of the installation. Yields

of more than 300 gpm are possible in the main producing zone just southeast of Hurlburt. Water quality from this aquifer requires treatment prior to potable water use, due to relatively high iron and tannin levels, as well as a low pH (USACE, 1994).

3.2 Soils

The soils of Hurlburt Field are derived from sedimentary deposits of fluvial and marine origin. The majority of soils are sandy and have low fertility. Soil density is relatively low, reflecting the high permeability of the surface soils and the relatively low direct runoff in the area. Erosion potential for all soils is considered slight due to the relatively level topography, except along Santa Rosa Sound, where it is moderate. Prime farmland soils do not occur within the installation.

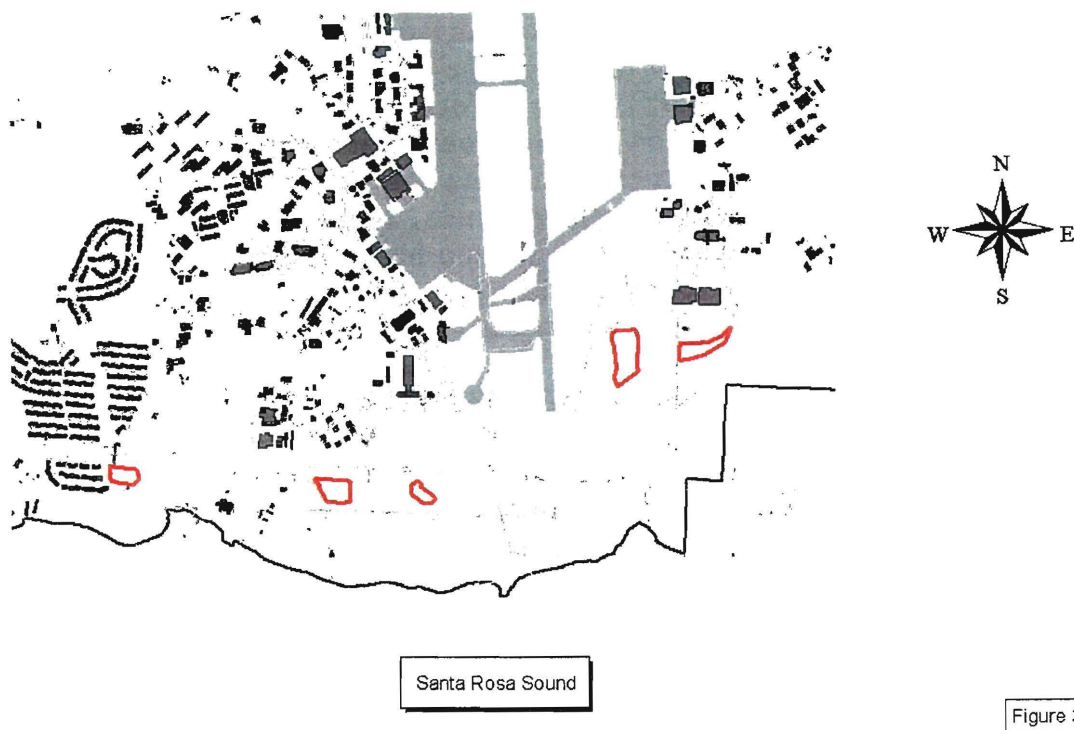
3.3 Surface Hydrology and Water Quality

Hurlburt Field is generally divided into two drainage basins or watershed regions. The northern two-thirds of the installation predominantly drains north and northwest into East Bay Swamp, while the southern third drains surface waters southward into Santa Rosa Sound. Surface waters in East Bay Swamp and East Bay River flow westward into East Bay. Manmade drainage ditches direct surface water flow (usually intermittent) into wetlands to the north. Stormwater retention/detention basins intercept drainage to Santa Rosa Sound (see Figure 3). Additionally, a very small region of land adjacent to the golf course drains eastward into Cinco Bayou, and thereafter into Choctawhatchee Bay (USACE, 1994).

Extensive swamps, marshes, ponds, and bayous occur in and around Hurlburt Field. Wetland areas within the installation are discussed below under Ecological Resources.

Hurlburt has an up-to-date Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) developed in accordance with Air Force Instruction 32-7041, *Water Quality Compliance*, and in compliance with the NPDES storm water permit issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The SWPPP identifies all industrial and other potential sources of non-point source pollutants occurring within the 11 distinct drainage basins on Hurlburt Field.

Regional Stormwater Treatment Ponds



3.4 Ecological Resources

3.4.1 Wetlands, Streams, and Floodplains

Approximately 3,431 acres or 52 percent of Hurlburt Field are federal jurisdictional wetlands (Woolpert, 1998). Air Force Instruction 32-7064 directs that installations shall develop and maintain current inventories of wetlands in order to plan for long-term protection or mitigation. Federal regulations applicable to wetlands include Executive Order (EO) 11990 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Regions of 100-year floodplains are extensive on Hurlburt Field. As expected, there is a strong correlation between those areas mapped as wetlands and the 100-year floodplain. Consequently, most of the northwest portion of the installation and much of the northeast occur within floodplains. Scattered, isolated floodplain pockets also occur east

and west of the airfield, and a floodplain/storm surge fringe exists where the installation borders Santa Rosa Sound. Federal regulations applicable to floodplain management include EO 11988.

Formal delineations of state and federal jurisdictional wetlands were conducted in 1995-97 and confirmed by the USACE (Panama City office) and the FDEP (Woolpert, 1998). The majority of wetlands occur in the northern half of the installation and are contiguous with East Bay Swamp. The most common wetland types within the installation include cypress-gum swamps, cypress domes, shrub wetlands, and herbaceous wetlands. Within the installation, cypress-gum swamp habitat is most prevalent within the northern half of the installation, which borders East Bay Swamp. Herbaceous wetlands are generally infrequent and small.

3.4.2 Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species

While the land area associated with Hurlburt Field supports numerous species of rare and sensitive flora and fauna, the specific project site for the Proposed Action is highly disturbed areas inside existing road right-of-ways and under existing asphalt areas, thereby minimizing potential negative impacts.

Important habitat areas for threatened and endangered flora are widespread on Hurlburt Field with the greatest densities occurring in the western portion of the installation where wet flatwoods, cypress domes, and other wetlands are common. Surveys for rare plant species in recent years include those documented in Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) (1992, 1994b), Labat-Anderson (1994), Printiss and Hipes (1997), and USAF (2001).

According to Printiss and Hipes (1997), approximately 60 rare, threatened, and endangered plant species may occur on Hurlburt Field. A total of 18 rare plant species have been discovered to date (Table 1), of which 14 species were located during surveys by the above authors. The only federal-listed plant possible within Hurlburt Field is the endangered perforate reindeer lichen (*Cladonia perforata*), which was not found in any survey to date.

The most widespread state-listed plant species known on the installation include the white-top pitcherplant (*Sarracenia leucophylla*), parrot pitcherplant (*Sarracenia psittacina*), Chapman's butterwort (*Pinguicula planifolia*), Curtiss' sandgrass (*Calamovilfa curtissii*), and Carolina lilaeopsis (*Lilaeopsis carolinensis*).

Important habitat areas for threatened and endangered fauna are also widespread on Hurlburt Field. Aside from aquatic species observed along

Santa Rosa Sound, the majority of other critical fauna habitats occur in the western portion of the installation and include pine flatwoods as well as cypress dome wetlands. Surveys for rare faunal species in recent years include those documented in Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) (1992, 1994b), Labat-Anderson (1994), USAF (2001), Printiss and Hipes (1997, 2000 and 2002), and Flowers (1997).

Table 1
Federal, State, Rare and Species of Special Concern Reported From Hurlburt Field

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal/State Status
Plants		
<i>Calamovilfa curtissii</i>	Curtiss' Sand Grass	*/T
<i>Calopogon tuberosus</i>	Grass Pink	/_
<i>Cleistes divaricata</i>	Rosebud Orchid	/T
<i>Drosera intermedia</i>	Water Sundew	/T
<i>Helianthemum arenicola</i>	Gulf Rockrose	/_
<i>Lilaeopsis carolinensis</i>	Carolina Lilaeopsis	/_
<i>Lilium catesbaei</i>	Southern Red Lily	/T
<i>Lupinus westianus</i>	Gulfcoast Lupine	*/T
<i>Nuphar lutea</i> ssp. <i>Ulvacea</i>	West Florida Cowlily	*/_
<i>Pinguicula planifolia</i>	Chapman's Butternut	*/T
<i>Plantanthera blephariglottis</i>	White Fringed Orchid	/T
<i>Pogonia ophioglossoides</i>	Rose Pogonia	/T
<i>Sarracenia leucophylla</i>	White-Top Pitcherplant	*/E
<i>Sarracenia psittacina</i>	Parrot Pitcherplant	/T
<i>Sarracenia purpurea</i>	Purple Pitcherplant	/T
<i>Spiranthes praecox</i>	Grass-Leaf Ladies' Tresses	/_
<i>Woodwardia areolata</i>	Netted Chain Fern	/_
<i>Xyris drummondii</i>	Drummond's Yellow-Eyed Grass	*/_
Animals		
<i>Agarodes ziczac</i>	Zigzag Caddisfly	/T
<i>Aimophila aestivalis</i>	Bachman's Sparrow	*/_
<i>Ambystoma cingulatum</i>	Flatwoods Salamander	T/T
<i>Ardea alba</i>	Great Egret	/_
<i>Ceratocanthus aeneus</i>	Shining Ball Scarab	/_
<i>Cheumatopsyche petersi</i>	Peter's Little Sister Sedge	/_
<i>Dromogomphus armatus</i>	Southeastern Spinyleg Dragonfly	/_
<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	Reddish Egret	*/SSC
<i>Eumeces anthracinus</i>	Coal Skink	/_
<i>Gymnoscartetes morsei</i>	Grasshopper Species	/_
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle	T/T
<i>Nemomydas jonesi</i>	Fly Species	/_
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	/_
<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Brown Pelican	/SSC
<i>Polylamina pubescens</i>	Panhandle Beach Scarab	/_

<i>Serica rhypha</i>	Crooked Silky June Beetle	_/_
<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	Least Tern	_/T

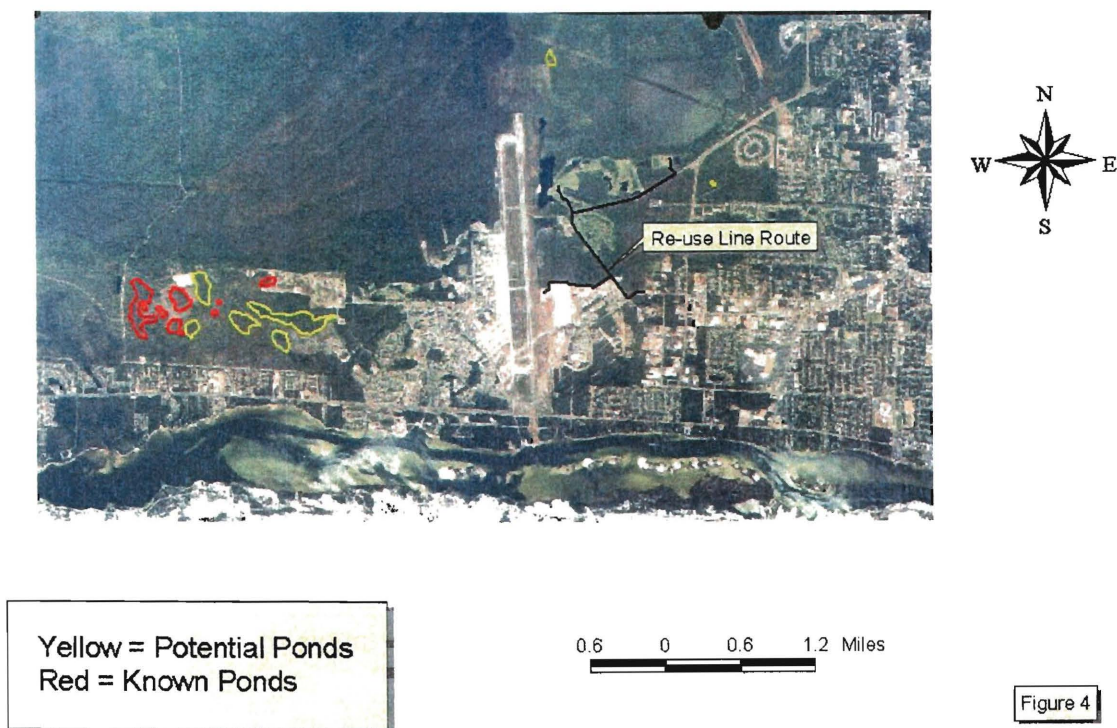
Key:

* = Formerly a C2 listed species (removed in 1996)

E = Endangered; T = Threatened; SSC = Species of Special Concern; _ = Unlisted but Rare Species

According to Printiss and Hipes (1997), approximately 57 rare, threatened, and endangered vertebrate species may occur on Hurlburt Field. A total of 17 rare animal species (including invertebrates) are currently known from Hurlburt (Table 1), of which 9 species were located during surveys by the above authors. There are only five federal-listed animals possibly occurring within Hurlburt Field and these include the flatwoods salamander (*Ambystoma cingulatum*), eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*), piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*), red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) and bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). Only three of the five possible species have been discovered within or adjacent to the installation thus far: the flatwoods salamander, red-cockaded woodpecker and bald eagle.

Flatwoods Salamander Ponds



The flatwoods salamander is a federal threatened species that breeds in flatwoods ephemeral wetlands during the fall. This amphibian has been documented at eight locations during surveys west of the explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) area by FNAI (FNAI, 1993, 1994a, 2000, 2002) (Figure 4). Surveys in 1999 further determined that 12 additional wetlands have potential as breeding sites (Printiss and Hipes, 2000). Surveys to confirm these potential breeding sites as supporting the salamander were conducted in 1999, 2000, 2001 and continue in fall of 2002. The closest known flatwoods salamander breeding site is over two miles away and the closest potential breeding site is over 1,500 feet away.

The bald eagle is a federal threatened bird that breeds within coastal marshes and adjacent to large rivers and lakes (Printiss and Hipes, 1997) where large isolated trees provide nest sites. While bald eagles are occasionally observed flying over the installation, they are not known to nest within its boundaries.

The former presence of the federal endangered red-cockaded woodpecker (RCW) (*Picoides borealis*) was confirmed in surveys by Eglin's Natural Resources Division in 1989 and by Dr. Jack Stout in 1993 (Labat-Anderson, 1994) that located two inactive clusters. One cluster of seven abandoned cavity trees and one start hole occurred near the installation boundary east of the Red Horse Training area, while the other cluster of six abandoned cavity trees was in the vicinity of the 801 Housing Area. Many of the original cavity trees have fallen out due to tropical storms and other natural causes. Both of the cluster sites were estimated to have been abandoned for approximately 14-15 years. Clusters are generally not re-utilized if abandoned for more than three years. Endangered species surveys reported in Printiss and Hipes (1997) also confirmed the lack of recent activity by this species. The closest known population of red-cockaded woodpeckers is located on Eglin AFB, approximately four miles west of the proposed project.

Correspondence dated April 13, 1995 and October 7, 1999 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), indicates that the Permanent Exercise Facility and the 801 Housing Area respectively, have low potential as RCW habitat and no additional consultation by the Air Force is needed unless the specie returns or new activity becomes apparent (see page 25).

3.5 Land Use

Hurlburt Field encompasses 6,643 acres. Of this acreage, 674 acres are classified as improved grounds with 57 acres beneath buildings and other surfaces. Semi-improved grounds cover 834 acres, and the remaining 5,069 acres are classified as unimproved. Most significant sized bodies of open water occur northeast of the airfield in the vicinity of the golf

course. The largest body of fresh water is Hurlburt Lake, which has a surface area of approximately 25 acres. There are minimal plans for future development of the large amount of open space currently existing and largely constrained as wetlands or important habitat on Hurlburt Field.

Hurlburt Field is home to the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC). AFSOC is the host command, and its 16th Special Operations Wing, (16 SOW) is the host organization whose primary mission is to organize, train, and equip Air Force special operations forces. Hurlburt requires airfield land use, runway and associated taxiways, aprons, and airfield operations and maintenance facilities.

The City of Fort Walton Beach will be granted a 30' wide easement on Air Force property for installation and maintenance of the re-use waterline. The real estate transaction for this project will be accomplished according to AFI 32-9003, Granting Temporary Use of Air Force Real Property.

Utilities

Utilities of concern for the project are gas, water, sewer, and communication lines that utilize the same right-of-ways that would be used for installation of the proposed re-use waterline.

3.6 Environmental Justice

The purpose of Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*, is to identify, address, and avoid disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations.

3.7 Cultural Resources

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to analyze the impacts of their actions on historic properties. Areas potentially impacted by activities are surveyed as part of the Air Force Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP). Past surveys of Hurlburt Field have revealed the presence of few archeological sites. Nine archeological sites have been identified through surveys and five have been determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Survey reports are filed in the office of the Cultural Resources Manager at Hurlburt Field.

3.8 Hazardous and Toxic Substances

According to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Section 6903(5), hazardous materials and wastes are defined as substances that, because of "quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may cause or significantly contribute to increases in mortality or serious illnesses, or pose a substantial threat to human health or the environment".

3.8.1 Generation of Hazardous Wastes

Hurlburt Field is a large-quantity generator of hazardous waste operating under authority of EPA identification number FL7570024375. The installation maintains a Hazardous Waste Management Plan that addresses the handling and disposal of all hazardous, special, and universal waste generated on Hurlburt Field. It defines the requirements for hazardous waste management in accordance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the Florida Department of Environmental Protection rules for hazardous waste management, and Air Force Instruction 32-7042. The plan is updated annually at a minimum.

There have been no large-scale mishaps involving the release of hazardous or special wastes into the environment on or immediately surrounding Hurlburt Field.

3.9 Installation Restoration Program Sites

The Installation Restoration Program (IRP) identifies, characterizes, and remediates past environmental contamination on Air Force installations. The IRP has established a process to evaluate past disposal sites, control the migration of contaminants, identify potential hazards to human health and the environment, and remediate the sites. There are a total of 25 IRP sites and four compliance sites identified on Hurlburt Field.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to analyze the potential impacts of the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative on the environment. A negligible impact may have an inconsequential effect or be unlikely to occur; an adverse impact would have negative consequences. If the current condition of a resource is improved or an undesirable impact is lessened, the impact is considered beneficial. A "no impact" determination is made when the Proposed Action does not noticeably affect a given resource.

4.1 Topography, Geology, and Hydrogeology

Proposed Action

Topography and geology are not likely to be affected by the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action could impact hydrogeology in a beneficial manner due to decreased demand on the Floridan and Sand and Gravel Aquifer that would be realized through active treatment and re-use of wastewater. Water is currently being withdrawn from the Floridan Aquifer at a higher rate than it is being recharged (by rainfall to the north and east). If this trend is not slowed or reversed, there is risk of substantial salt-water intrusion into the aquifer. By replacing water that is currently withdrawn from the two available aquifers for irrigation with water that is being reclaimed and is suitable for irrigation purposes, the demand on the aquifers will be greatly reduced.

No-Action Alternative

The re-use waterline would not be constructed and water would continue to be withdrawn from the Floridan and Sand and Gravel Aquifers at the current rate, potentially resulting in an adverse impact when combined with other current and future withdrawals.

4.2 Soils

Proposed Action

Construction of the re-use waterline would involve trenching and possibly boring. Trenching would result in temporary displacement of soils to a depth of about 42 inches. Displaced soils from trenching would be replaced as construction progressed, thereby minimizing the potential for migration of spoil material off site through erosion or other means. Silt screens would be used in conjunction with hay bales in areas where the re-use line comes within close proximity to surface waters or wetlands to further protect these sensitive areas from runoff. Once restored to their previous elevations, seeding and/or sodding would stabilize areas disturbed by trenching.

If boring were necessary, this action would permanently displace subsurface soils. Boring would produce spoils that would be evenly spread in a suitable location near the bore site. Suitable locations would be areas at least 50 meters from wetlands and other surface water bodies with little or no slope to minimize movement of the spoils from the intended area. Boring would only disturb surface soils at the point of entry and exit. Best Management Practices (BMP's) such as silt screens

would be employed at entry and exit points as needed to prevent sediments from entering nearby surface waters or wetlands.

Impacts to soils from the Proposed Action would be negligible.

No-Action Alternative

The re-use waterline would not be constructed and no impacts would occur.

4.3 Surface Hydrology and Water Quality

Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action, the re-use waterline would be constructed entirely in existing right-of-ways and under existing asphalt and paved areas, minimizing potential impacts to surface waters or wetland areas. In areas where the line would be placed in close proximity to surface waters, silt screens consisting of filter fabric and hay bales would be utilized to prevent sediments from migrating off site. Silt screens and other BMP's will also be used extensively along ditches, swales, culverts and other stormwater structures to prevent sedimentation and erosion related to construction from entering the stormwater system. The actual BMP's to be used would be included in the contractor's stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan that is required under the EPA's NPDES stormwater permitting program.

Hurlburt's Gator Lakes Golf Course currently withdraws water from Hurlburt Lake for irrigation purposes. Hurlburt Lake is a 25 acre manmade impoundment located behind the golf course clubhouse. The lake is also the only water body on Hurlburt Field authorized for sport fishing. During droughty times the lake, which is fed by groundwater, reaches extremely low levels that prevents boat launching and increases potential for fish kills from low dissolved oxygen. Withdrawing water from the pond for irrigation during these times is an additive factor in the problems associated with low water levels. Availability of re-use water for irrigation purposes at the golf course would lessen demands on the lake and alleviate impacts of future droughts on the lake.

The Proposed Action would result in no impacts to surface hydrology and water quality with the exception of potential benefits to Hurlburt Lake.

No-Action Alternative

The re-use line would not be constructed and Hurlburt Lake would continue to be utilized as the water source for irrigating Gator Lakes Golf Course. No other impacts, positive or negative would be realized.

4.4 Ecological Resources

4.4.1 Wetlands, Streams, and Floodplains

Proposed Action

Under the Proposed Action, the re-use waterline would be constructed entirely in existing right-of-ways and under existing asphalt and paved areas, eliminating direct impacts to surface waters or wetland areas. At one location, routing of the line as proposed would place it in what was historically floodplain, but because the line will be placed in an existing elevated road right-of-way that bisects the area, no floodplain issues would be realized and no impacts to floodplains would occur.

The Hurlburt Field AWTP is an advanced biological treatment facility that began discharging treated effluent into a large forested wetland, the East Bay Swamp, under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit FLA 0003174 in 1991. The original NPDES permit was issued by the EPA in 1991 and was delegated to the FDEP in 2000. This permit allows for a maximum annual average daily discharge of 1.0 million gallons per day (mgd). Annual average daily discharge for the reporting period July 2001 - June 2002 was .531 mgd. Wastewater is treated using an equalization basin, 3-orbital aerators, clarifiers, and final chlorination. As required by permit conditions, Hurlburt established monitoring stations, conducts quarterly monitoring of environmental conditions and submits comprehensive report findings to the FDEP to ensure no adverse impacts to the environment are incurred as a result of discharging treated wastewater. Findings to date have revealed no significant changes attributable to discharge of treated wastewater.

Re-using wastewater that is currently being discharged into adjacent wetlands has potential to alter hydrology in the localized wetland area surrounding the discharge points. An EA completed in 1991 on the effects of construction and operation of the Hurlburt Field AWTP revealed discharge of treated effluent from the plant into the adjacent wetland area would result in a "negligible", .086 inch increase in water level. Conversely, cessation or reduction of discharge received by the wetland through diversion to re-use facilities should also have a negligible impact.

No-Action Alternative

The re-use line would not be constructed and wastewater would continue to be discharged into the East Bay Swamp as provided for by NPDES permit FLA 010187-01. Stringent monitoring requirements associated with the permit would continue to ensure no negative impacts to the environment.

4.4.2 Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species

Proposed Action

No negative impacts to rare or sensitive vegetative species would be likely to occur because the Proposed Action would be constructed entirely in existing road right-of-ways and under existing asphalt and paved areas. Silt screens consisting of filter fabric and hay bales would be employed in areas adjacent to wetlands and other habitats where protected flora was present to protect those species.

Three federal-listed animals have been identified within or adjacent to Hurlburt Field thus far. They are the flatwoods salamander (*Ambystoma cingulatum*), red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) and bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*).

The flatwoods salamander is an amphibian that breeds in flatwoods ephemeral wetlands during the fall. This animal has been documented at eight locations during surveys since 1993. A large pine flatwoods area dotted with cypress domes and other wetlands on the western side of Hurlburt is the only area where flatwoods salamanders have been documented. Two areas of potential habitat have been identified in the northeastern part of the base, but three years of surveys have failed to reveal the presence of salamanders. Less than ideal weather conditions could have contributed to the absence of salamanders in past surveys of this area so further surveys are being conducted in the fall and winter of 2002/2003. No negative impacts would be realized to flatwoods salamanders or their habitat from the proposed re-use line due to its distance from these areas. The closest known flatwoods salamander breeding site is over two miles away and the closest potential breeding site is over 1,500 feet away from the nearest point of the proposed re-use line (see Figure 4).

Bald eagles are occasionally observed flying over the Hurlburt Field installation but are not known to nest within Hurlburt's boundaries. The closest known bald eagle nest is over 12 miles away on the Eglin Reservation. No large trees that could serve as potential eagle nesting sites would be removed as a result of installation of the re-use line. No

impacts to the bald eagle would be realized as a result of the Proposed Action being implemented.

The former presence of the federal endangered red-cockaded woodpecker (RCW) on Hurlburt Field was confirmed in surveys that located two inactive clusters. The abandoned clusters are estimated to have been abandoned for approximately 14-15 years. Clusters are generally not re-utilized if abandoned for more than three years. Correspondence dated April 13, 1995 and October 7, 1999 from the USFWS indicated that no further consultation would be required with their office relative to RCW on Hurlburt Field unless evidence of new activity by the specie was found. The USFWS concurred with the AF that due to various conditions and limitations, it was unlikely RCW would re-colonize Hurlburt Field (see page 25 for USFWS correspondence).

The closest known population of RCW is located approximately four miles west of the proposed re-use line on Eglin AFB. Due to its proximity to active RCW colonies and suitable habitat, the Proposed Action will have no impact on the species.

No-Action Alternative

The re-use line would not be constructed and no impacts would occur.

4.5 Land Use

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would take place within the boundary of Hurlburt Field, a mostly industrialized area with heavy human presence. Conflicts with the users of Hurlburt property during pipeline construction would primarily consist of potential effects to traffic movement due to the proximity of project activity to roadways. No road closings or extended traffic stoppage would occur as a result of the project.

An AF 103 (digging permit) would be initiated to identify and locate utility lines in the area so they could be avoided.

Impacts to land use from the Proposed Action would be negligible.

No-Action Alternative

The re-use line would not be constructed and no impacts would occur.

4.6 Environmental Justice

Proposed Action

The purpose of Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*, is to identify, address, and avoid disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations. Since this document focuses only on that portion of the proposed project that would be located on Hurlburt Field, no environmental justice issues would be realized from the Proposed Action.

No-Action Alternative

The re-use line would not be constructed and no impacts would occur.

4.7 Cultural Resources

Proposed Action

At the closest point the Proposed Action would be approximately 4,000' from the nearest known archeological site on Hurlburt Field. The proposed route of the re-use line is entirely in areas that have been previously surveyed or in areas that have been identified as having a low probability for the occurrence of archeological resources. No impacts should occur and no consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) would be required.

No-Action Alternative

The re-use line would not be constructed and no impacts would occur.

4.8 Hazardous and Toxic Substances

Proposed Action

4.8.1 Generation of Hazardous Wastes

Wastewater generated at Hurlburt Field is currently disinfected with chlorine and then de-chlorinated with sulfur dioxide to prevent toxicity to fish and other aquatic organisms upon discharge to adjacent wetlands. In order to comply with state requirements, the water would be re-chlorinated before entering the re-use system, but only to levels equivalent to normal drinking water standards. Any run-off that might occur from re-use areas would contain the same levels of chlorine as

potable water currently being used and would have no negative impact on the surrounding environment.

4.9 Installation Restoration Program Sites

No IRP or other known contaminated sites are located within the project area. The nearest IRP site is Hurlburt's old Fire Training Pit (FT-39), approximately 450' west of the proposed line. The site is currently undergoing remediation and is scheduled for closure in December 2004. No impacts would occur as a result of the Proposed Action being implemented.

No-Action Alternative

The re-use line would not be constructed and no impacts would occur.

5. REFERENCES

- Florida Natural Areas Inventory. 1992. "Rare Plant Survey of Eglin AFB: Final Report--Year One." Florida Department of Natural Resources, Tallahassee, Florida.
- Florida Natural Areas Inventory. 1994b. "Rare Plant Survey of Eglin AFB: Final Report--Year Two." Florida Department of Natural Resources, Tallahassee, Florida.
- Flowers, R. Wills. 1997. "An Invertebrate Survey of Hurlburt Field, Florida with Special Reference to Species of Special Concern." 16th Civil Engineering Squadron Environmental Flight, Hurlburt Field.
- Labat-Anderson, Inc. 1994. "Threatened and Endangered Species Survey: Hurlburt Field, Florida." 16th Civil Engineering Squadron Environmental Flight, Hurlburt Field.
- Printiss, David, & Hipes, David. 2000. "Flatwoods Salamander Survey and Habitat Evaluation of Eglin Air Force Base, Hurlburt Field, and Tyndall Air Force Base." 16th Civil Engineering Squadron Environmental Flight, Hurlburt Field.
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- Woolpert LLP. 1998. "Comprehensive Wetland Delineation." 16th Civil Engineering Squadron Environmental Flight, Hurlburt Field.
- Woolpert LLP. 1999. "Hurlburt Field Land Use Plan." 16th Civil Engineering Squadron Engineering Flight, Hurlburt Field.

6. LIST OF PREPARERS

Name and Title	Degree	Years of Experience
Philip Pruitt Natural Resources Manager 16 CES/CEV Hurlburt Field, FL	B.S. Wildlife Biology Master of Public Administration	14
Keith Carnley Environmental Engineer 16 CES/CEV Hurlburt Field, FL	B.S. Chemical Engineering	19

7. PERSONNEL INTERVIEWED

- Robin Armhold - 16 CES/CEV, Hurlburt Field, FL
- Andrea Bishop - 16 CES/CEV, Hurlburt Field, FL
- Keith Carnley - 16 CES/CEV, Hurlburt Field, FL
- Hildreth Cooper - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Panama City, FL
- Tim Hoffman - 16 CES/CEC, Hurlburt Field, FL
- Jackie Lynd - 16 CES/CEV, Hurlburt Field, FL
- Phil Phillips - Fabre Engineering, Inc., Pensacola, FL
- Marisol Reina - AAC/EM, Eglin AFB, FL
- Randy Trent - 16 CES/CEV, Hurlburt Field, FL
- Don Williams - 16 CES/CEO, Hurlburt Field, FL





IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Field Office

1612 June Avenue

Panama City, FL 32405-3721

Tel: (850) 769-0552

Fax: (850) 763-2177

October 7, 1999



Mr. Nicholas M. Podich
Deputy Base Engineer
16 CES/CE
415 Independence Road
Hurlburt Field, Florida 32544-5244

Re: FWS No. 4-P-00-005
RCW Coordination
801 Housing, Hurlburt Field
Okaloosa County, Florida

Dear Mr. Podich:

Thank you for your letter of September 9, 1999, requesting the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) opinion on the status and re-colonization potential of a Red-cockaded woodpecker (RCW) cluster located on the Air Force 801 Housing Area. This response is provided in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) and section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Your letter documents that the cluster has been inactive for at least 10 years. The 801 Housing Area is bounded by residential development, or by the East River Swamp. Therefore, it is not contiguous with other RCW habitat. The nearest active RCW clusters are found on Eglin Air Force Base (AFB) approximately 3.75 miles away, and on the Fort Walton Beach Municipal Golf Course approximately 2.75 miles away. Because of its immediate proximity to residential areas, proximity to the Ft. Walton Beach Municipal area, and Air Force mission constraints, the area has a poor prescribed burning history. Due to lack of burning and the interdispersion of wet areas, RCW habitat in the area is considered poor.

Based on the information you have provided, we feel that this cluster is abandoned. Because of the reasons given above, potential for recolonization of the area is low. Furthermore, management of the area for RCWs would not significantly contribute to the recovery of the

species. Therefore, proposed projects such as (but not limited to) the improvement of stormwater discharge, and further residential development in "801 Housing" are not likely to adversely affect the RCW.


In a phone conversation with Stan Simpkins of this office, Mr. Philip Pruitt of Hurlburt Field's Environmental Flight indicated that all abandoned cavity trees would be retained. Retention of the cavity trees will provide habitat for secondary cavity nesters.

Since Hurlburt Field will not be actively managing for RCWs in an area where a cluster historically existed, we suggest that you consider providing for a "replacement" cluster on Eglin AFB. Provisioning of the cluster would include the installation of at least four artificial cavities and completing any necessary midstory removal on a 10-acre site. Providing funding for prescribed burning of the site and associated foraging habitat could also be considered. The work could be accomplished in a recruitment stand in coordination with the Eglin AFB Natural Resources Branch. Such an action would result in an overall net conservation benefit to the RCW and contribute to the Air Force's RCW recovery efforts.

We believe that the requirements of section 7 of the Act have been satisfied with regard to activities affecting the RCW that may occur within the 801 Housing Area at Hurlburt Field. In the unlikely event that RCWs move back into the area or additional cavity trees are discovered, then reinitiation of consultation would be required. Furthermore, if other federally listed, or proposed species may be present in the area, then under section 7 of the Act, the Air Force would be required to determine whether proposed activities may directly, indirectly, and/or cumulatively affect such species, or habitat, and further coordination with this office may be necessary.

Thank you for your interest in protected species. We look forward to working with you in the future. Please contact Stan Simpkins of this office at extension 234 for additional information and coordination.

Sincerely yours,


Gail A. Carmody
Project Leader



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Field Office

1612 June Avenue

Panama City, FL 32405-3721

Tel: (904) 769-0552

Fax: (904) 763-2177

April 13, 1995

Lt. Colonel Philip J. Le Grand
Base Civil Engineer
16 SPTG/CE
415 Independence Road, Building 90053
Hurlburt Field, Florida 32544-5244

Re: FWS No. 4-P-95-034
Hurlburt Field Permanent
Exercise Facility (PEF)
Coordination on the Red-cockaded
Woodpecker (RCW)

Dear Colonel Le Grand:

Thank you for your memorandum of April 7, 1995. This response is provided pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Your memorandum requests a conclusion to ESA coordination between the Air Force and the Fish and Wildlife Service on the RCW in the PEF area. The rationale for ending coordination described in your memorandum consists of the apparent absence of RCWs in the PEF area for the past several years, deteriorated habitat, the isolation of this habitat from existing RCW populations on Eglin Air Force Base, and the low potential for improving this habitat.

We concur with the Air Force's findings and agree that no additional consultation on the RCW in the PEF area is needed. We also agree with the Air Force's intention to renew ESA coordination with us promptly if RCWs are found in the PEF area.

Please contact Lloyd Stith of this office at extension 234 if additional information or coordination is needed.

Sincerely,

Gail A. Carmody
Gail A. Carmody
Project Leader

LGS/kh/te2/4p95034.ic1





Jeb Bush
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

David B. Struhs
Secretary

August 13, 2003

Lieutenant Colonel Jeffery L. Pitchford
16 CES/CC
415 Independence Road
Hurlburt Field, Florida 32544-5244

RE: Department of Defense - U.S. Air Force - Draft Final Environmental Assessment for
Wastewater Reuse Line - Hurlburt Field, Okaloosa County, Florida
SAI: FL200306162586C

Dear Lieutenant Colonel Pitchford:

The Florida State Clearinghouse, pursuant to Presidential Executive Order 12372, Gubernatorial Executive Order 95-359, the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1464, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321, 4331-4335, 4341-4347, as amended, has coordinated the review of the above-referenced Environmental Assessment (EA).

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) supports the proposed reuse of reclaimed water. The project must include monitoring and meet specific criteria for public access reuse of reclaimed water. A permit or modification of existing permits may be required. The applicant is advised to contact DEP's Northwest District Office at (850) 595-8300, regarding permit requirements.

Based on the information contained in the referenced EA and the comments provided by our reviewing agencies, as summarized above and enclosed, the state has determined that, at this stage, the proposed project is consistent with the Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP). The state's final concurrence of the project's consistency with the FCMP will be determined during the environmental permitting stage.

The Air Force is advised that a Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) federal consistency determination that addresses the project's compliance with the applicable enforceable policies included in the FCMP statutes was not provided, as required under the CZMA and 15 CFR 930, Subpart C. Future documents prepared for this project and/or other proposed projects should comply with the CZMA and 15 CFR 930.39 (copy enclosed). The Air Force may wish to contact DEP's Office of Intergovernmental Programs at (850) 245-2163, for assistance with this requirement, if needed.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the project. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Rosalyn Kilcollins at (850) 245-2163.

Sincerely,

Sally B. Mann, Director
Office of Intergovernmental Programs

SBM/rk
Enclosures

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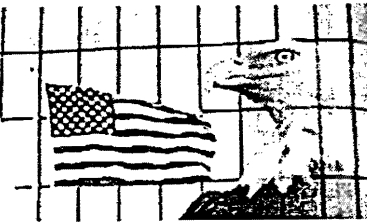


Florida

Department of Environmental Protection

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Project Information	
Project:	FL200306162586C
Comments Due:	July 16, 2003
Letter Due:	August 15, 2003
Description:	DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - FINAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TO CONSTRUCT A WASTEWATER RE-USE LINE - HURLBURT FIELD, OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA.
Keywords:	USAF - EA WASTEWATER RE-USE LINE - HURLBURT FIELD, OKALOOSA CO.
CFDA #:	12.200
Agency Comments:	
WEST FLORIDA RPC - WEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL	
NC	
OKALOOSA - OKALOOSA COUNTY	
No Final Comments Received	
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY UNIT - OFFICE OF POLICY AND BUDGET, ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY UNIT	
NO COMMENT	
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS - FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS	
Released Without Comment	
FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION - FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION	
NC by Brian Barnett 7/16/03	
HEALTH - FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
NC	
STATE - FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE	
nc	
TRANSPORTATION - FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	
NC	
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION - FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	
The Department supports the proposed reuse of reclaimed water. The project must include monitoring and meet specific criteria and measures for public access reuse of reclaimed water. A permit or modification existing permits may be required. The applicant is advised to contact the Department's Northwest District in Pensacola at (850) 595-8300. RK	
NORTHWEST FLORIDA WMD - NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT	
nc	

For more information please contact the Clearinghouse Office at:

AGENCY CONTACT AND COORDINATOR (SCH)
 3900 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD MS-47
 TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-3000
 TELEPHONE: (850) 245-2161
 FAX: (850) 245-2190

Visit the Clearinghouse Home Page to query other projects.



COUNTY: OKALOOSA - 2003-5324

SAI - ~~DBAF~~ - HB

DATE: 6/16/2003

COMMENTS DUE DATE: 7/16/2003

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 8/15/2003

SAI#: FL200306162586C

CONCUR NO EFFECT
MESSAGE:

STATE AGENCIES	WATER MNGMNT. DISTRICTS	OPB POLICY UNIT	RPCS & LOC GOVS
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS	NORTHWEST FLORIDA WMD	ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY UNIT	
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION			
FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION			
HEALTH			
X STATE			
TRANSPORTATION			

The attached document requires a Coastal Zone Management Act/Florida Coastal Management Program consistency evaluation and is categorized as one of the following:

- ☐ Federal Assistance to State or Local Government (15 CFR 930, Subpart F). Agencies are required to evaluate the consistency of the activity.
- ☒ Direct Federal Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart C). Federal Agencies are required to furnish a consistency determination for the State's concurrence or objection.
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- ☐ Federal Licensing or Permitting Activity (15 CFR 930, Subpart D). Such projects will only be evaluated for consistency when there is not an analogous state license or permit.

Project Description:

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - FINAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TO CONSTRUCT A WASTEWATER RE-USE LINE - HURLBURT FIELD, OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

To: Florida State Clearinghouse

EO. 12372/NEPA Federal Consistency

AGENCY CONTACT AND COORDINATOR (SCH)
3900 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD MS-47
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-3000
TELEPHONE: (850) 245-2161
FAX: (850) 245-2190

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Comment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Comment/Consistent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comment Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Consistent/Comments Attached |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable | <input type="checkbox"/> Inconsistent/Comments Attached |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |

From:

Division of Historical Resources
Bureau of Historic Preservation

Division/Bureau:

Reviewer: S. Edwards

LHC 7/8/03

James P. Garber
Deputy SHPO
7/8/03

Date: 7-7-03

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JUL 15 2003

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RECEIVED
BUREAU OF
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
JUN 17 PM 4:04



RL

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Project Review Form

TO: State Clearinghouse
Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 47
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

DATE: July 7, 2003

SUBJECT: Project Review: Intergovernmental Coordination
Title: Dept. of the Air Force-Final Draft Environmental Assessment to
Construct a Wastewater Reuse Line-Hurlburt Field, Okaloosa
County, FL
SAI #: FL200306162586C

The District has reviewed the subject application and attachments in accordance with its responsibilities and authority under the provisions of Chapter 373, Florida Statutes. As a result review, the District has the following responses:

ACTION

- ☒ No Comment.
- ☐ Supports the project.
- ☐ Objects to the project; explanation attached.
- ☐ Has no objection to the project; explanation optional.
- ☐ Cannot evaluate the project; explanation attached.
- ☐ Project requires a permit from the District under_____.

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DEGREE OF REVIEW

- ☒ Documentation was reviewed.
- ☐ Field investigation was performed.
- ☐ Discussed and/or contacted appropriate office about project.
- ☐ Additional documentation/research is required.
- ☐ Comments attached.

SIGNED Maria Gilbertson

Duncan Jay Cairns
Chief, Bur. Env. & Res. Plng.



COUNTY: OKALOOSA

DATE: 6/16/2003

COMMENTS DUE DATE: 7/16/2003

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 8/15/2003

SAI#: FL200306162586C

MESSAGE:

STATE AGENCIES	WATER MNGMNT. DISTRICTS	OPB POLICY UNIT	RPCS & LOC GOVS
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS	X NORTHWEST FLORIDA WMD	ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY UNIT	
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION			
FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION			
HEALTH			
STATE			
TRANSPORTATION			

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Project Description:

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - FINAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TO CONSTRUCT A WASTEWATER RE-USE LINE - HURLBURT FIELD, OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

To: Florida State Clearinghouse

EO. 12372/NEPA Federal Consistency

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-3000
TELEPHONE: (850) 245-2161
FAX: (850) 245-2190

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Comment | <input type="checkbox"/> No Comment/Consistent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comment Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Consistent/Comments Attached |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable | <input type="checkbox"/> Inconsistent/Comments Attached |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |

From:

Division/Bureau: NFWFMD
Resource Management Div.
Reviewer: Duncan I. Cairns *Maria Culbertson*
Date: 7/7/03



724

COUNTY: OKALOOSA

DATE: 6/16/2003

COMMENTS DUE DATE: 7/16/2003

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 8/15/2003

SAI#: FL200306162586C

MESSAGE:

STATE AGENCIES	WATER MNGMNT. DISTRICTS	OPB POLICY UNIT	RPCS & LOC GOVS
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS			
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	NORTHWEST FLORIDA WMD	ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY UNIT	
X FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION			
HEALTH			
STATE			
TRANSPORTATION			

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Project Description:

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - FINAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TO CONSTRUCT A WASTEWATER RE-USE LINE - HURLBURN FIELD, OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

To: Florida State Clearinghouse

EO. 12372/NEPA Federal Consistency

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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-3000
TELEPHONE: (850) 245-2161
FAX: (850) 245-2190

☒ No Comment

☐ Comment Attached

☐ Not Applicable

☒ No Comment/Consistent

☐ Consistent/Comments Attached

☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached

☐ Not Applicable

From:

Division/Bureau: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Reviewer: BRIAN BARNETT

Date: 6/23/03

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JUN 18 2003

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JUN 25 2003

OIP/OLGA

OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



COUNTY: OKALOOSA

DATE: 6/16/2003

COMMENTS DUE DATE: 7/16/2003

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 8/15/2003

SAI#: FL200306162586C

MESSAGE:

STATE AGENCIES	WATER MNGMNT. DISTRICTS	OPB POLICY UNIT	RPCS & LOC GOVS
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS	NORTHWEST FLORIDA WMD	ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY UNIT	
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION			
FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION			
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TRANSPORTATION			

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Project Description:

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - FINAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TO CONSTRUCT A WASTEWATER RE-USE LINE - HURLBURT FIELD, OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

REUSE-AWT

To: Florida State Clearinghouse

EO. 12372/NEPA Federal Consistency

AGENCY CONTACT AND COORDINATOR (SCH)
3900 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD MS-47
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-3000
TELEPHONE: (850) 245-2161
FAX: (850) 245-2190

☐ No Comment

☐ Comment Attached

☐ Not Applicable

☒ No Comment/Consistent

☐ Consistent/Comments Attached

☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached

☐ Not Applicable

From:

HSES Onsite Sewage Programs

Division/Bureau:

Dale Holcomb

Reviewer:

6-23-2003

Date:

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JUN 30 2003

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COUNTY: OKALOOSA

DATE: 6/16/2003

COMMENTS DUE DATE: 7/16/2003

CLEARANCE DUE DATE: 8/15/2003

SAI#: FL200306162586C

MESSAGE:

STATE AGENCIES	WATER MNGMNT. DISTRICTS	OPB POLICY UNIT	RPCS & LOC GOVS
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS	NORTHWEST FLORIDA WMD	X ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY UNIT	
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION			
FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION			
HEALTH			
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Project Description:

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE - FINAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TO CONSTRUCT A WASTEWATER RE-USE LINE - HURLBURT FIELD, OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

To: Florida State Clearinghouse

EO. 12372/NEPA Federal Consistency

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FAX: (850) 245-2190

☒ No Comment

☐ Comment Attached

☐ Not Applicable

☐ No Comment/Consistent

☐ Consistent/Comments Attached

☐ Inconsistent/Comments Attached

☐ Not Applicable

From:

Division/Bureau:

Reviewer:

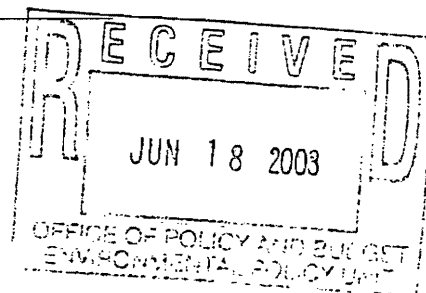
Date:

DPB - Env. Policy
J. Janner
7/10/03

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**WEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**Post Office Box 9759 • 3435 North 12th Avenue • Pensacola, Florida 32513-9759

Phone (850) 595-8910 • S/C 695-8910 • (800) 226-8914 • Fax (850) 595-8967

Lel Czeck
Executive DirectorCody Taylor
ChairmanSydney Joel Pate
Vice-Chairman**FAX TRANSMITTAL (S) Total # of Pages (including cover) 1****TO: STATE CLEARINGHOUSE • FAX: (850) 245-2190/(850) 245-2189**
Phone: 850-245-2161**DATE:** July 1, 2003**FROM:** *JNL*
Jerris Nelson Lewis, Intergovernmental Review Coordinator
Extension 226
lewisj@wfrpc.dst.fl.us**SUBJECT:** State Clearinghouse Review(s) Fax Transmittals:

SAI #	Project Description	RPC #
FL200306162586C	Department of the Air Force – Final Draft Environmental Assessment to Construct a Wastewater Re-use Line – Hurlburt Field, Okaloosa County, Florida.	O620-06-25-2003

X	No Comments – Generally consistent with the WFSRPP
	Comments Attached

If you have any questions, please call.

